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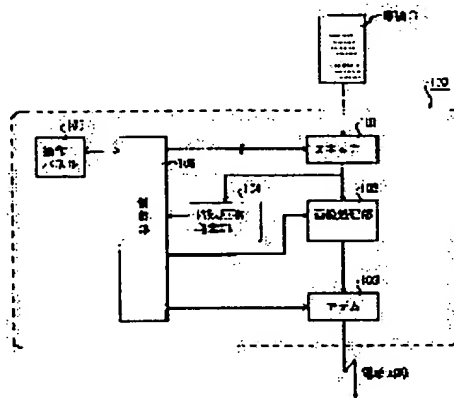
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(54) FACSIMILE EQUIPMENT

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To prevent the unexpected output of an image of a special original by controlling a transmission means based on the discrimination result of a special original discrimination means so as to inhibit transmission of a received color image.

CONSTITUTION: A special original discrimination section 104 discriminates whether or not an original G being an origin of a color image inputted from a scanner 101 is a special original such as bank note or securities whose copying is inhibited. When the discrimination section 104 discriminates the original G to be the special original, a control section 106 controls an image processing section 102 and a MODEM 103 of a transmission means to inhibit the transmission of the received color image. Thus, it is prevented that the image of the special original whose copying is inhibited is sent or received and the image of the special original is unexpectedly outputted. Moreover, it is desired that an image display device such as a CRT or a liquid crystal display device or a printer of a warning mark is provided as a means warning disable facsimile transmission when the special original is discriminated.



LEGAL STATUS

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Japanese Patent Application for Unexamined Patent Application
No. 130657/1996 (Tokukaihei 8-130657)

A. Relevance of the Above-identified Document

This document has relevance to claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-18, 23 and 24 of the present application.

B. Translation of the Relevant Passages of the Document

[CLAIMS]

[CLAIM 1] A facsimile device which performs sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

input means for inputting the color image;

transmission means for faxing the color image inputted by the input means;

special document discrimination means for judging whether or not the color image inputted by the input means is of a special document, copying of which is prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable securities or the like; and

control means for forbidding transmission of the inputted color image by controlling the transmission means when the special document discrimination means judged that the inputted color image is of the special document.

[CLAIM 2] A facsimile device which performs sending/receiving of a color image, comprising

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input means for inputting the color image;

transmission means for faxing the color image inputted by the input means;

special document discrimination means for judging whether or not the color image inputted by the input means is of a special document, copying of which is prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable securities or the like;

control means for forbidding transmission of the inputted color image by controlling the transmission means when the special document discrimination means judged that the inputted color image is of the special document; and

warning means for sending a warning/notification showing that faxing is forbidden, when the special document discrimination means judges that the inputted color image is of the special document.

[CLAIM 3] The facsimile device set forth in Claim 2, wherein the warning means is an image display device, such as a CRT, a liquid crystal display or the like and displays a warning message in the case where the color image is judged to be of the special document.

[CLAIM 4] The facsimile device set forth in Claim 2, wherein the warning means is a printing device which prints a warning mark showing that the faxing is

forbidden, and in the case where the document is judged to be of the special document, prints the warning mark on the document which was meant to be sent.

[CLAIM 5] The facsimile device set forth in Claim 2, wherein the warning means is a sound output device which outputs a warning sound or a warning message, and in the case where the document is judged to be of the special document, outputs the warning sound or the warning message.

[CLAIM 6] A facsimile device which performs sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

receipt means for receiving the faxed color image;

output means for outputting the color image received by the receipt means to recording paper;

special document discrimination means for judging whether or not the color image received by the receipt means is of a special document, copying of which is prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable securities or the like; and

control means for forbidding printing of the received color image by controlling the output means when the special document discrimination means judged that the received color image is of the special document.

[CLAIM 7] A facsimile device which performs

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sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

IN RECEIPT MEANS FOR RECEIVING THE FAXED COLOR IMAGE;

APPLICANT: output means for outputting the color image

U.S.S. received by the receipt means to recording paper signed

special document discrimination means for judging

FOR: Whether or not the color image received by the receipt

means is of a special document, copying of which is

prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable

securities or the like; and

control means for outputting while disturbing a

portion of the received color image which is judged to

be of the special document by controlling the output

means when the special document discrimination means

judged that the received color image is of the special

document.

[CLAIM 8] A facsimile device which performs

sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

operation means for carrying out various operations;

receipt means for receiving the faxed color image;

storage means for temporarily storing the color image received by the receipt means;

output means for outputting the color image received by the receipt means to recording paper;

special document discrimination means for judging

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whether or not the color image received by the receipt
 USSN: 02,009,405
 Page 2 means is of a special document, copying of which is

prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable
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 securities or the like; and

Submitted herewith is a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign
 control means for allowing the storage means to
 store the color image received by the receipt means and

forbidding printing of the received color image by
 controlling the output means when the special document
 discrimination means judged that the received color

image is of the special document

wherein, when outputting the color image stored in
 the storage means is required via the operation means,
 the control means outputs while disturbing a portion of
 the received image which is judged to be of the special
 document, by controlling the output means.

[CLAIM 9] A facsimile device which performs
 sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

receipt means for receiving the faxed color image;
 output means for outputting the received color
 image received by the receipt means to recording paper;
 special document discrimination means for judging
 whether or not the color image received by the receipt
 means is of a special document, copying of which is
 prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable
 securities or the like; and

S. Onhashi, et al. control means for outputting while encrypting part
 USSN: 08,929,405 of the received color image which is judged to be of
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the special document by controlling the output means

when the special document discrimination means judged

that the received color image is of the special document. Before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)), if a certification has been issued, please consider this US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) will see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$240.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b).

[CLAIM 10] A facsimile device which performs

sending/receiving of a color image, comprising:

operation means for carrying out various operations; or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)), if a certification has been issued, please consider this US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) will see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$240.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b).

receipt means for receiving the faxed color image;

output means for outputting the received color

image received by the receipt means to recording paper;

special document discrimination means for judging

whether or not the color image received by the receipt

means is of a special document, copying of which is

prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable

securities or the like; and

control means for pausing output by the output

means so as to allow a user to check the presence or

absence of output via the operation means, thereafter

controlling whether or not to allow the output means to

output based on the check results when the special

document discrimination means judged that the received

color image is of the special document.

[CLAIM 11] The facsimile device set forth in Claim 10, wherein:

the operation means has an image display device, and,

the control means allows the user to check the presence or absence of output by causing the image display device to display the color image that was judged to be of the special document.

[EMBODIMENT]

[0032] A special document discrimination section 104, when a color image of a document G is inputted, judges whether or not the document G is a special document, copying of which is prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable securities or the like. At this stage, the method of discriminating the special document is not particularly limited, and for example, a pattern matching method which is a publicly known technology can be used. The special document discrimination section 104 outputs the judgement result to a control section 106.

[0033] The control section 106 follows the judgement result inputted from the special document discrimination section 104, and in the case that the special document discrimination section 104 judges that the inputted color image is not of a special document,

faxes the inputted color image through an image processor 102 and a modem 103. On the other hand, in the case that the special document discrimination section 104 judges the inputted color image is of a special document, the control section 106 warns/notifies a user by taking the steps of stopping the action of the image processor 102 while simultaneously forbidding the facsimile transmission of the color image from the modem 103, and displaying a warning message "transmission not allowed; special document" on the liquid crystal display of an operating panel 105.

[0034] As described, according to Embodiment 1, there is made a judgement of whether or not the document G is a special document, and in the case that the document G is a special document, the facsimile transmission is forbidden, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received.

[0035] Also, since the warning message is displayed via the operating panel 105, the user is given the notice of the forbidden transmission of the inputted color image (document G). In other words, it warns the user of the careless transmission of the special document.

[0038] As described, according to Embodiment 2, there

is made a judgement of whether or not the document G is a special document, and in the case that the document G is a special document, the facsimile transmission is forbidden, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received.

[0039] Further, the user is given the notice of the forbidden transmission of the inputted color image (document G), as a marking device 201 prints a warning mark 202 on a document G'. In other words, it warns the user of the careless transmission of the spacial document.

[0040] In addition, the user is given the notice of the aborted transmission of the document G with the warning mark 202.

[0048] A special document discrimination section 404, when a color image is inputted, judges whether or not the received color image is of a special document, copying of which is prohibited by laws, such as paper money, valuable securities or the like. At this stage, the method of discriminating the special document is not particularly limited, and for example, a pattern matching method which is a publicly known technology can be used. The special document discrimination section 404 outputs the judgement result to a control

section 406.

[0049] The control section 406 follows the judgement result inputted from the special document discrimination section 404, and in the case that the special document discrimination section 404 judges that the received color image is not of a special document, outputs the received color image to recording paper P through an image processor 402 and a printer 403. On the other hand, in the case that the special document discrimination section 404 judges that the received color image is of the special document, the control section 406 stops the action of the image processor 402 while simultaneously forbidding outputting the received color image to the recording paper P through the printer 403.

[0050] As described, according to Embodiment 4, there is made a judgement of whether or not the received color image is of a special document, and in the case that the received color image is of a special document, output through the printer 403 is forbidden, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received.

[0053] As described, according to Embodiment 5, there is made a judgement of whether or not the received

color image is of a special document, and in the case that the received color image is of the special document, the received color image is outputted as a disturbed data, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received.

[0054] In the case of an image sending/receiving device represented by a facsimile device, there is a possibility of losing an essential image (information) for a user when, for example, the printing of the image is forbidden, or an image filled-in with black is added on, which is not desired by the user. Especially, in the case of receiving a facsimile, the loss of the essential image (information) results in a serious problem as a receiver does not have its original document. However, according to Embodiment 5, disturbing the image makes it possible to prevent not only the loss of the essential image but also the danger of outputting the special document.

[0058] As described, according to Embodiment 6, there is made a judgement of whether or not the received color image is of a special document, and in the case that the received color image is of a special document, the received color image is temporarily stored in an image memory 501, and output through the printer 403 is

forbidden, also, when it is required to output the color image through the operating panel 405, the part of the color image which is judged to be of the special document is outputted as a disturbed data, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received.

[0059] Also, an image which is judged to be of the special document is displayed on the liquid crystal display of the operating panel 405 so as to enable the user's check, and output is carried out according to the user's check, thereby preventing, for example, the loss of the essential image (information) for the user due to false detection of the special document.

[0063] As described, according to Embodiment 7, there is made a judgement of whether or not the received color image is of a special document, and in the case that the received color image is of a special document, the received color image is outputted as an encrypted image, thereby preventing the careless output of an image of the special document when the image of the special document is sent/received. Also, the user does not lose the essential image (information) since the encrypted output image can be recovered as required.